

Date: Fri, 20 May 94 15:35:51 PDT  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #550  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Fri, 20 May 94                      Volume 94 : Issue 550

## Today's Topics:

(none)  
Atlas 210X Info Wanted  
Broadbander BB3 Antenna?  
Cheap Discone Antennas  
cycles, cycles/sec vs Hz (3 msgs)  
Internet CW vs. FSK  
Man named Loomis invented radio?  
Opinions on ICOM RP-4020  
sacred frequencies  
What does HAM mean ? (2 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available (by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 20 May 94 20:07:30 GMT  
From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: (none)  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

subscribe info-hams john murphy

Date: 19 May 94 07:22:40 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!cat.cis.Brown.EDU!noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!  
usenet@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
Subject: Atlas 210X Info Wanted

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

where find this Hi Manuals outfit?????I have an Atlas 210.....tnx.

-----  
Date: 19 May 94 07:45:50 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!cat.cis.Brown.EDU!noc.near.net!news.delphi.com!  
usenet@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
Subject: Broadbander BB3 Antenna?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I've never heard of such an animal! If you would photocopy the flyer and send it to me I PROMISE I'll send u back a dollar bill to pay for the stamp and the photocopy that day.....a. noble, N6WR, PO Box 189490,Sacramento, CA 95818.....tnx mucho appreciate.

-----  
Date: 19 May 1994 03:36:35 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!  
noc.near.net!usenet.elf.com!rpi!rebecca!albnyvms.bitnet!RP4541@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Cheap Discone Antennas  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2r5qmd\$mgo@girtab.usc.edu>, asplund@girtab.usc.edu (Information Missing) writes:

>Hello all,

>

>Recently I saw an ad in one of the hundreds of scanner/ham radio magazines I  
>subscribe to for an inexpensive (around \$29.95) discone antenna. However, I  
>cannot seem to find the ad after many hours of looking. Since I am looking to  
>purchase five of these antennas, I would like to find the best deal possible.

>

>If anyone knows of a good source for inexpensive discone antennas, I would  
>appreciate it if you passed the information along to me at:  
asplund@aludra.usc.edu.

>

>Thank you for the help.

>--Daryl

>

Why don't you try Copper Electronics. They have a line of good Scanner antennas, mobile and base. Their phone number is 1-800-626-6343 and ask for a catalog. They have a base antenna starting at 14.99. Hope this helps!

-----  
| Ronald Poserina Jr. (rp4541@albnyvms.bitnet) |  
| \*\*\* S.U.N.Y. at Albany \*\*\* |

| Box 1477 State Quad, SUNY Albany, Albany, NY 12222 |

-----  
"A place where anything can happen, and usually does!"

-----  
Date: 20 May 94 18:29:38 GMT  
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!kustu1.berkeley.edu!user@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
Subject: cycles, cycles/sec vs Hz  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994May19.133612.17560@mixcom.mixcom.com>, kevin jessup  
<kevin.jessup@mixcom.mixcom.com> wrote:

> What really make me laugh is when a ham (99.9% of them) tell me  
> how many FEET their 40 METER beam is above the ground.

Crack open a Ham license study guide sometime if you really enjoy that  
sort of thing.

- Tim Ikeda (timi@mendel.berkeley.edu)

-----  
Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 23:54:19 GMT  
From: news.acns.nwu.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!psuvax1!  
news.cc.swarthmore.edu!netnews.upenn.edu!msuinfo!harbinger.cc.monash.edu.au!  
trlluna!titan!pcies4.@@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: cycles, cycles/sec vs Hz  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2re4in\$6sm@gerald.cc.utexas.edu> oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu (Derek  
Wills) writes:

>From: oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu (Derek Wills)  
>Subject: cycles, cycles/sec vs Hz  
>Date: 18 May 1994 22:24:23 GMT  
>If you guys are going to worry about kilocycles vs kilocycles/sec  
>you might also want to worry about the frequent use of milliHertz,  
>as in "144 mHz", "27 mHz", these low frequencies are not usually  
>what is meant - 1 mHz is 1 cycle per 15 minutes.  
>  
>You might also wonder why we usually refer to the ham bands by  
>their wavelengths, but 160, 80 and 40m are the "low bands".  
>If you are on 20m, do you tell someone you are going up to 80m,  
>or down to 80m?  
>  
>I suppose we should be happy if there is nothing more serious

>to worry about in the hobby.  
>  
>  
>Derek "QRZ the frequency" Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)  
>Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,  
>Austin TX 78712. (512-471-1392)  
>oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

This silly business of using mHz instead of MHz crept in, as far as my observations go, when PC speeds became such an advertizing issue. The computer industry today overwhelmingly specify their PC speeds as 33 mHz, 66 mHz... and so on. Pretty darned slow?

73, Drew, VK3XU

-----  
Date: Fri, 20 May 1994 12:47:37 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!  
rogjd@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: cycles, cycles/sec vs Hz  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Derek Wills (oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu) wrote:

: If you guys are going to worry about kilocycles vs kilocycles/sec  
: you might also want to worry about the frequent use of milliHertz,  
: as in "144 mHz", "27 mHz", these low frequencies are not usually  
: what is meant - 1 mHz is 1 cycle per 15 minutes.

: You might also wonder why we usually refer to the ham bands by  
: their wavelengths, but 160, 80 and 40m are the "low bands".  
: If you are on 20m, do you tell someone you are going up to 80m,  
: or down to 80m?

: I suppose we should be happy if there is nothing more serious  
: to worry about in the hobby.

Just another example of the titanic issues with which we hams must daily grapple.

--

rogjd@netcom.com  
Glendale, CA  
AB6WR

-----  
Date: 20 May 94 22:56:50 GMT

From: news-mail-gateway@ucsd.edu  
Subject: Internet CW vs. FSK  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Text item: Text\_1

>Where a dit is "\_" and dah is "-" and it's easier to type; you merely  
>toggle the shift key to go between a dit and dah.

Let's get away from this obsolete dit/dah stuff. HEXly-coded-ASCII  
makes a lot more sense. Note how much more efficient this is than  
dits and dahs.

44 45 20 4B 47 37 42 4B

-----  
Date: 18 May 1994 04:58:28 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!  
netline-fddi.jpl.nasa.gov!nntp-server.caltech.edu!mustang.mst6.lanl.gov!  
newshost.lanl.gov!beta.lanl.gov!wolf@@  
Subject: Man named Loomis invented radio?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1994May17.145749.20098@koccrsv01.delcoelect.com>  
c22jrb@koccrsv01.delcoelect.com (Jim Buchanan) writes:

>  
>[...]  
>  
>Dr. Loomis was a dentist. If I remember correctly, he used a non-powered  
>system where he simply connected his "transmitting" antennae to ground via  
>a telegraph key. I assume that at all time a very small potential  
>difference existed between the antennae and ground, when the key opened and  
>closed, a small current flowed and excited the antennae at its resonant  
>frequency. I'm not sure what he used as a detector, but it did work.

possibly the first case of the reception of rf by one's dental work ! :-))

david r. wolf - wb4vcq

-----  
Date: 17 May 94 19:09:00 GMT  
From: lll-winken.llnl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!eff!  
news.duke.edu!duke!wolves!psybbs!1-151-160-0!Dave.Hockaday@ames.arpa  
Subject: Opinions on ICOM RP-4020  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

MPD>I'm in the process of upgrading one of our 440mhz repeaters here in  
MPD>the area, and I'm looking at the ICOM RP-4020. I'm curious if anyone  
MPD>has had any experience with this machine.  
MPD>Specifically, I'm wondering how easy this repeater is to modify.  
MPD>It does not come with an autopatch, for instance - has anyone  
MPD>added a patch to one of these repeaters, and if so, how difficult  
MPD>was it?  
MPD>Another annoying quirk of the repeater is that it IDs every time  
MPD>someone lets the tail drop. This does not appear to be a user-changable  
MPD>feature. Anyone know of firmware patches available?

Hi Mike! We just installed a RP-2210 (220 mhz 25 watt version here in  
Wendell, NC.

It doesn't have a patch. In fact, the controller is pretty basic  
(timeout timer, hang timer, CW id, and DTMF controll of CTCSS and shut  
down...no courtesy tone). It is pretty standard though, and adding a new  
controller shouldn't be too difficult...just more money :-).

There are a few quirks that I've noticed on the machine...

- #1- IDs every 3 minutes sporatically
- #2- Timeout timer doesn't reset on cor drop, but instead on repeater  
tail drop. Kinda annoying...we set the hang timer to 1 or 2 seconds  
so it wouldn't get timed out so much.
- #3- Timeout timer doesn't keep the repeater off the air while the  
offending signal is still present...just drops the repeater for 5  
seconds, pops back on the air with an ID, and goes for 3 more  
minutes.
- #4- Hang timer has to be set via dip switch in the cabinet...no changes  
remotely.
- #5- Squelch instability. Difficult to keep the squelch set near the  
threshold as it wanders about a little. Have to set it at worst  
case setting...not too bad, though.
- #6- CTCSS decoder doesn't gate the repeat audio, only inhibits the cor  
signal. Once the repeater is keyed, noise, other sigs, etc. are  
repeated regardless of CTCSS. Audio gating still relies on squelch  
setting.
- #7- Squelch state seems to be affected by AGC level, rather than as  
most are via noise switches. Lightning during storms will  
constantly key the repeater.

Repeat audio quality is good, RX sens is good, it has an internal power  
supply, and runs pretty cool during high duty cycle periods. We set the  
hang timer to about 1-2 seconds to avoid constant timeout conditions,  
set the squelch a few times until worst case setting was found (over a  
few days of trial and error!), and let her fly. It is rated at 25 watts,  
but only does about 20...no big deal. Hope that helps es 73 de WB4IUY

---  
> X OLX 2.1 X Backup not found: (A)bort (R)etry (P)anic

-----  
Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 09:13:45 GMT  
From: news.Hawaii.Edu!uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu!jherman@ames.arpa  
Subject: sacred frequencies  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2ras1j\$4@paperboy.gsfc.nasa.gov> Erich Franz Stocker  
<stocker@spsosun.gsfc.nasa.gov> writes:  
>In article <rogjdCpy6s5.GII@netcom.com> Roger Buffington,  
>rogjd@netcom.com writes:  
>> : Then you need to put up a better antenna. The maritime net on 14300 kc  
>> : has been around for at least 20 years handling traffic, WX and phone

Erich: I said the above not Roger.

>  
>This 14300kc interests me. First, I guess the author really meant 14.3  
>kc.

No, I meant 14300 kc - no one is down on 14.3 kc except maybe the US Navy.

>Also, I guess that kc was used because it is supposed  
>to show a long term connection with radio.

Your supposition is incorrect. I had just finished writing a series of  
articles to be published concerning the maritime calling/distress freq  
of 500 kc. 'kc' involves two fewer keystrokes than kHz (counting the  
shift key). Although, when I got interested in radio kc and mc were  
standard.

>However, kc was always  
>incorrect as used because it was always supposed to be kc/s. A time  
>unit has to be provided to give a proper frame of reference.

Then I guess wind velocity given in 'knots' is also incorrect since  
there is no time reference. But we all know that 'knots' means  
'nautical miles per hour', just like we all know 'kc' implies  
'kilocycles per second'. Except for Erich...

>This kind of identification with "the true antiquity" of radio by  
>using quaint "older" terms.

The article I was writing dealt with the history of 500 kc, thus kHz  
would have been inappropriate. And as I mentioned, I would rather just

use 2 keystrokes (kc) dozens of time in the article rather than 4  
keystrokes (k<shift>Hz). I could pick on you since the above is not  
a correct sentence, but I won't.

>Always reminds me of being in the Army and  
>being trained by older NCOs who always talked about the good old days  
>of the "brown shoe" army when "men were men" and everything was just  
>a lot better.

As a matter of fact, when I was in Coast Guard Radioman school in 1976  
all of our manuals still used kc and mc.

>I guess the Kc is supposed to show that the poster came  
>from a time when "hams were ham" and modern changes didn't affect the  
>hobby. Or maybe I'm just being too critical of a slip.

No matter what the period of time modern changes will affect some but  
not necessarily others. I build xmtrs on scrap pieces of wood, use  
wood screws for terminals, and get components from old TV sets (no ICs,  
just old-fashioned transistors). And I just made a 'sideswiper' telegraph  
key (popular back in the 20s) from a hacksaw blade. I wind my coils on  
cardboard toilet-paper tubes. My rigs reflect simplicity. So does 'kc'  
(fewer keystrokes).

Go eat a few of Ed's prunes, Erich.

>\* N30XM \*

Oh! THAT explains everything... ;)

.73,  
Jeff NH6IL

-----

Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 04:54:13 GMT  
From: lll-winken.llnl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!  
kd4nc!ke4zv!gary@ames.arpa  
Subject: What does HAM mean ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CpzIsG.20G@uqac.quebec.ca> srogers@uqac.quebec.ca (Suzanne Rogers)  
writes:

>This is a newbie question.

>

>I'm sure the answer is obvious for most of you knowledgeable people, but  
>seems I looked everywhere -- dictionaries, magazines, books -- with no luck.

>



>What does HAM stand for?

There are several theories on the origin of the term ham as applied to amateur radio operators. Many hold that it was a term of derision from telegraph operators who called inept operators hams because supposedly their Morse sounded like it was sent with a ham on the key. There's support for this from the term "ham handed". There's also the old theater expression of scorn for "ham actors" who are clumsy, inept, and self important.

There is also the idea that HAM came from the initials of three early amateur operators who had a station before formal callsigns were introduced. Unfortunately this fails because the initials don't match.

The best theory I've heard is that there was a popular magazine at the beginnings of radio called Home Amateur Mechanic that published popular plans for radio receivers and transmitters. So people would say that they had one of those HAM radios.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

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Date: 20 May 94 18:51:23 GMT  
From: newsgate.melpar.esys.com!melpar!phb@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: What does HAM mean ?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

phb@syseng1.melpar.esys.com (Paul H. Bock) writes:  
>save time. It seems a small thing, but when handling CW traffic  
>through the static crashes on LF, using (ugh!) spark, every  
>little bit would help.....

Oops, sorry about that! If it was "spark" it wouldn't be "CW", would it? After all, "CW" is "continuous wave".....I goofed! Sorry about that!!! It should say "...when handling radiotelegraph traffic..." which covers spark, CW, MCW or any radio on-off keying mode which uses Morse or International Morse code.

73 DE K4MSG

-----  
Date: Fri, 20 May 1994 12:46:19 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!library.ucla.edu!csulb.edu!csus.edu!netcom.com!  
rogjd@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <Cq1LMx.DD4@news.Hawaii.Edu>, <2rfp8d\$qcg@news.iastate.edu>,  
<Cq2nt8.570@news.Hawaii.Edu>  
Subject : Re: sacred frequencies

Jeffrey Herman (jherman@uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu) wrote:  
: In article <2rfp8d\$qcg@news.iastate.edu> wjturner@iastate.edu (Weuchsowagan)  
writes:

: >  
: >Fine. Reflect simplicity. However, if you want your speaking and  
: >writing to reflect simplicity of understanding, namely by people who do  
: >not know your conventions, you should use kc/s or KHz as they are what  
: >you are actually trying to say. Saying what you mean is always a much  
: >better policy than expecting others to figure it out for themselves.

: Will, it's a very good thing your weren't licensed prior to the usage  
: of kHz or MHz (when all the literature used kc and Mc) - you'd have had  
: lots of ulcers and extremely high blood pressure.

Are these Mhz versus KC people putting us on? They've gotta be.

Had us going for a nanosecond there, guys! :-)

73

--

rogjd@netcom.com  
Glendale, CA  
AB6WR

-----  
Date: 20 May 1994 13:00:50 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!  
newsrelay.iastate.edu!news.iastate.edu!wjturner@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <Cq1LMx.DD4@news.Hawaii.Edu>, <2rfp8d\$qcg@news.iastate.edu>,  
<Cq2nt8.570@news.Hawaii.Edu>urne  
Subject : Re: sacred frequencies

In article <Cq2nt8.570@news.Hawaii.Edu>, jherman@uhunix3.uhcc.Hawaii.Edu (Jeffrey Herman) writes:

|> In article <2rfp8d\$qcg@news.iastate.edu> wjturner@iastate.edu (Weuchsowagan) writes:

|> >

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|> >you are actually trying to say. Saying what you mean is always a much  
|> >better policy than expecting others to figure it out for themselves.

|>

|> Will, it's a very good thing your weren't licensed prior to the usage  
|> of kHz or MHz (when all the literature used kc and Mc) - you'd have had  
|> lots of ulcers and extremely high blood pressure.

|>

|> Ask Erich to get you a few of Ed's prunes.

Very funny!! I know what you meant to say, and I probably would not have said anything at all except for the idiots on usenet who keep repeating that CYCLES is the same as CYCLES PER SECOND. They are not the same. Sure, Kc/s was used for a long time, and now KHz is the convention. May be when someone said Kc almost everyone else understood that he/she meant Kc/s, but that doesn't make it correct.

My point above was that simplicity in key strokes does \*not\* always guarantee what you type is simple to understand--as you seem to think. Simplicity is not a word that can stand alone (just like CYCLES when you mean CYCLES/SECOND. :)

(By the way, I grew up with the terminology Kc/s, and I have even heard--infrequently--Kc. However that does not make Kc correct, and anyone who preaches that it is correct should have their error pointed out. I hope if I would make a similar blunder, that someone would have the decency to point it out in as civilized a manner as I and many of the other people here have, until some idiots decided that since I'm not 10000000000 years old that I have no idea what I'm talking about.)

--

Will Turner, NORDV	-----
wjturner@iastate.edu	"Are you going to have any professionalism,
twp77@isuvax.iastate.edu	or am I going to have to beat it into you?"
TURNERW@vaxld.ameslab.gov	-----

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Date: Thu, 19 May 1994 17:26:26 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!news.eecs.nwu.edu!tellab5!

jwa@network.ucsd.edu

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <CppExH.5G1@cup.hp.com>, <CpwIu8.D3v@ryn.mro.dec.com>,  
<np2xCpx8n7.7oL@netcom.com>  
Subject : Re: repeater slang/lingo.

In article <np2xCpx8n7.7oL@netcom.com> np2x@netcom.com (Phil Petersen) writes:  
>YEah... they say "QSL" all the time (which is not intended for voice  
>modes -- especially VHF/UHF) and is improper in the way which it is used.  
>  
>And the same ones that are always "destinated"  
>  
>And the same ones that give a "5-by-9" report to someone wanting a signal  
>check.  
>  
>Need I go on....  
>  
No, I'll do it for you!

The thing that turns my crank is when someone identifies themself  
by giving their call and then they say "for I D ".

Of course! that's what their doing isn't it?

Why do they have to be redundant? I never heard this proceedure  
used in the 60's. Is this something that was carried over from  
the "Chicken Band" when they where required to use a call?  
When ever I here some one do it I ask if they operated a CB  
radio before they where a Ham and usually the answer is yes.

---

Jack Albert WA9FVP                      Fellow Radio Hacker  
    Tele (708) 378-6201  
Tellabs Operations, Inc.              FAX (708) 378-6721  
1000 Remington Blvd.                  jwa@tellabs.com  
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

-----  
Date: 20 May 94 21:58:53 GMT  
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!europa.eng.gtefsd.com!news.umbc.edu!eff!  
blanket.mitre.org!linus.mitre.org!newsflash.mitre.org!m14494-pc.mitre.org!  
mwhite@ucbvax.berkeley.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <2r8f28\$ha2@vixen.cso.uiuc.edu>,  
<1994May17.145749.20098@kocrsv01.delcoelect.com>,  
<2rc79k\$f6a@newshost.lanl.gov>linus.m  
Subject : Re: Man named Loomis invented radio?

>>Dr. Loomis was a dentist. If I remember correctly, he used a non-powered  
>>system where he simply connected his "transmitting" antennae to ground via  
>>a telegraph key. I assume that at all time a very small potential  
>>difference existed between the antennae and ground, when the key opened and  
>>closed, a small current flowed and excited the antennae at its resonant  
>>frequency. I'm not sure what he used as a detector, but it did work.

Thanks; a very nice summary. The site where these experiments took place is  
near my home, in the Virginia mountains west of Washington, DC; there's a  
historical marker there. His "antennas" were very long vertical wires  
supported by kites. Loomis thought he was somehow tapping into a flow of  
aetheric energy moving through the sky. What he was really doing was  
electromagnetic induction, powered by the atmospheric potential difference  
between ground level and the top of his skywire some hundreds of feet up. A  
true pioneer, he was right for all the wrong reasons.

-----  
Mike White  
mwhite@mitre.org  
m14494@mwvm.mitre.org  
703-883-7923 office  
703-430-8402 home

My opinions are my own, not my employer's.

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #550  
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